2 WAY SSB

THE EXCITER

Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.

Published Free of Charge Monthly by The San Antonio Radio Club.

VOL. 3, No. 2 FEBRUARY, 1960 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

DX

Hi gang! This is my first attempt at column writing, and I hope you'll bear with me. I know everyone will want to join in thanking W5LUU for his fine DX news of the past. Thanks for a job well done, Derwin.

Conditions remain good on 10, 15, and twenty; though down a bit from fabulous 'Fifty-eight-'Fifty-nine. Ten and fifteen have been open daily, daylight hours, to many corners of the Earth. Twenty generally opens shortly before sunrise, and has been good until late evening. Seasonal low noise levels on 80 and 40 have enabled signals from Oceania, South America and Europe to be heard on the "long waves" recently.

The ARRL DX Contest is at hand once again. The Fone portion of the fray runs Feb. 5-7 and March 4-6; while the brass-pounders go at it Feb. 19-21 and March 18-20. January QST has the rules, one important change being that KH6 and KL7 will not count as DX countries for purposes of the contest. Please mark your log San Antonio Radio Club entry when you mail it in, and let W5EJT or myself know your score. This way the Club can enter too, and club leaders will be eligible to win certificates. Remember, all countries confirmed by ARRL DX Contest logs will count for DXCC even if you never get a QSL from that rare one.

W5EJT reports 60 countries worked in the past 3 months. Great going, Gene! New at W5UX was VU2ANI in the Andaman Islands. Bob is fast approaching the 270 mark, and led the San Antonio contingency in December's DXCC listing. Other locals overheard DX'ing include W5HHE, W5BLA and W5FYN. That's all for now, so 73, DX, and cu in the next big pile-up.

Len, W5LGG
PE 6-1322

PROGRAMS

Cole Crump W5DKF, has volunteered his services and talents to the post of program chairman. He has lined up several good programs to date, but he is going to need the help of all of us to get some good programs for the coming months.

For the meeting Feb. 5th, we will have Irving Seligmann W5UB present a program on some of the printed circuit boards he has produced, some he is going to produce, and give a little info. on how they work. Irving is going great guns in the printed circuit field, and he should be one of the foremost authorities on printed circuitery in this area. Irving has been a ham for some 35 years, and has made himself familiar with a lot of the problems the Hams have had. This program is a must, don't miss it.

Frank Marcie W5YSY is going to be in charge of the program for the meeting on Feb. 19th. The topic of his program will be Microwave. Frank is now doing more work on microwave as the Amateur sees it, than anyone else that we know of here in San Antonio. There are several of the Hams in this area interested in Microwave, and this should be a very good program for all the Hams.

Ray Wangler W5EDZ, is going to be in charge of the program for the meeting March 4th. The topic of this program will be Radio Teletype. There are several Hams in San Antonio now on Teletype, and are enjoying it very much, and there are several more that we know of that are interested in

getting on. This should prove to be very interesting whether you are thinking of actively participating in Radio Teletype or just plain interested.

MOBILE

Some of the new ones on the mobile frequencies are W5ZPV, K5AII, K5AIL Jerry, Marvin W5FFG, K5-OZO Jim, K5TIM.

K5GUH is mobile again in his new Renault. He said recently that he worked K9BXV who comes through San Antonio Frequently on his way to Mexico.

Leroy K5HHI is mobile to and from Kelly every day now.

Guy K5VFB is a regular listener on 75 in the mornings, and afternoons. He informed us that he plans to have a xmitter in the auto soon.

K5TIM is another new one on recently.

W5FQA E. C. came in first at the last transmitter hunt, and Gene W5EJT, and Theo W5OZQ tied for second place. There were two hunters that didn't even show. Wha-hoppen fellows? Cole W5DKF hid about eight miles north of town, and the last hunter that showed up, got there about twenty five minutes after the hunt started. So it looks like the competition is really getting rough. The next hunt will be on Feb. 7th.

Gene W5EJT

VHF AND UP

50 mc. activity was spotty during the month but powerful at times. K5HVC heard all call areas on 9 Jan. during the VHF Sweepstakes, including the rare W1's.

On 15 Jan., K5OOJ worked XE1-FU, Mexico City, about 1600 CST. FU told Bill that he had worked Australia recently. FU was also worked by W5-ZLV and heard by W5KRH later in the evening by Es. About this time, W5VY saw Channel 2, Mexico City.

Around 17 Jan., OOJ heard HC1-FS, Quito, in the evening several days in a row. This could mark the start of the evening trans-equatorial (TE) paths to South America on 50 mc. so be on the lookout down south through March up till 2200.

On 18 Jan., HVC heard TG9JW by Es at 1953. Bert missed adding to his 16 countries worked on 50 mc. because of local rag chewers on the low end of the band on top of JW. The local gang should try to stay above 50.2 mc. for local contacts, or use the Bell scheme.

K5AIU and HVC on 23 Jan. heard an F2-type signal with a British accent from the SW which could have been the South Pacific at 1400. Since the frequency was about 50.4 mc., it was not a VK as they must operate above 51 mc. with the ending of the IGY in '58.

BBC video on 45 mc. still comes thru from about 0900-1200 for about a fourth of the days, with very strong signals. No 50 mc. European sigs have been heard in San Antonio this season. Maybe AD 1965 will help!

New officers for the Six Meter Club of SA are: K5AIU, Chuck, Pres.;

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K5PWX, Bill, Net Control; K5PIB, Newt, Sec-Treas.; K5SCN, Bob, Social Director. Info from HVC.

W5VY is interested in setting up skeds with W7RUX, Phoenix, in order to attempt to bounce signals off the 100 ft. aluminum sphere which will be orbited by NASA in early spring of this year. Pat has a KW on 50 and 144 mc. and his equipment proves quite effective against meteor trails. Space Track information will be used to determine suitable orbits and times.

This work is of great scientific interest and anyone desiring additional details should contact the writer.

PROJECT ECHO (of NASA) proposes to launch the 100 ft. sphere into a 50 deg. orbit with a 1000 mile perigee (low point) and 120 minute period. 960 mc. signals have already been bounced off test spheres on the east coast. Bright as a first magnitude star, it should be visible several times per AM and PM during favorable passes.

Thanks to the San Antonio gang for providing such good info for this column. Good luck.

Cal Graf, W5LFM
207 Addax Drive
DI 4-5032

ALAMO YL's

The Alamo Yl's met at the home of Ella W5TSE for their January meet-

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ing. Eight members and two visitors attended. Those visiting were KN5-UTO Sally, and Mary Naughton.

K5OPS reported that the net they have in operation on 7235 kc. on Friday mornings at 0900 has been quite active with four to five members checking in each week. All licensed YL's are invited to check in.

The group will meet on March 20, 1960 at the home of Fran Bruemmer W5KQG 1934 Arroya Vista.

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